

## **Questions for Rep. Torres Small**

### **House Homeland Security Committee Hearing:**

*“A Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security”*

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.  
310 Cannon

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#### **Transportation of migrants from sector to sector**

Last Friday, CBP notified congressional offices that it is providing aircraft flights and bus transportation to unprocessed family units from the Rio Grande Valley and Yuma Sectors to other border sectors.

- Why is CBP not providing transportation from the El Paso Sector to other sectors, given that it is the second sector with the most unaccompanied children and family unit apprehensions?

#### **Decision making of mass releases**

I want to pivot to OR releases conducted by Border Patrol.

- After Border Patrol processes family units, what are the steps that CBP takes in deciding where and when large groups of migrants will be released?
- Is it a requirement for local governments and NGOs to be consulted? If so, how much time in advance are they notified before a release?

- Who ultimately makes the decision of when and where to release migrants?

### **Migrant Processing**

In conversations with both ICE and CBP, it is apparent that both agencies believe they should not be responsible for processing asylum-seekers.

Border Patrol says ICE has better resources for processing, while ICE believes it is Border Patrol's responsibility since they are the first to encounter migrants. This disconnect stems from a lack of leadership at the top of the department.

- Mr. McAleenan, what agency should be tasked to process asylum seekers?